

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 5 to 7, 9, 14, 18, 25 to 27, 29, 34, 35 and 38 without prejudice or disclaimer of subject matter, and amend Claims 1, 3, 4, 8, 10 to 13, 15 to 17, 19 to 21, 23, 24, 28, 30, 31, 33, 36, 37, 39 and 40 as shown below. The claims, as pending in the subject application, now read as follows:

1. (Currently amended) An image forming system having an image information generation apparatus for generating image information, and an image forming apparatus capable of forming images on both sides of a printing medium on the basis of the image information generated by the image information generation apparatus,

the image information generation apparatus comprising:

image information generation unit adapted to generate ~~means for generating~~ image information;

storage unit adapted to store ~~means for storing~~ the generated image information to allow identifying whether the image information is first image information to be printed on a first surface of the printing medium or second image information to be printed on a second surface of the printing medium;

first reception unit adapted to receive ~~means for receiving~~ a first signal to select the first image information or the second image information in order to transmit to predetermined ~~signal from~~ the image forming apparatus;

selection unit adapted to select ~~means for selecting~~ one of the first image information ~~to be printed on the first surface of the medium~~ and the second image

information ~~to be printed on the second surface~~ on the basis of the first predetermined signal received by said first reception unit means; and

first transmission unit adapted to transmit means for reading out the image information selected by said selection unit means from said storage means and ~~transmitting the information~~ to the image forming apparatus, and

the image forming apparatus comprising;

second transmission unit adapted to transmit means for transmitting the first predetermined signal;

second reception unit adapted to receive the image information transmitted from the image information generation apparatus; and

image forming unit adapted to form means for forming an image on the first surface or the second surface of the printing medium on the basis of the image information received by the second reception unit transmitted from the image information ~~generation apparatus.~~

2. (Original) The system according to claim 1, wherein said image information generation means generates the image information on the basis of PDL data sent from a host computer.

3. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the second transmission unit transmits a request signal ~~image forming apparatus comprises~~ ~~transmission request means~~ for requesting transmission of the image information to the image information generation apparatus, and the second reception unit of the image

forming apparatus receives the image information transmitted from the image information generation apparatus in accordance with the transmission of the request signal of the first surface or the second surface.

4. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the first transmission unit transmits image information ~~generation apparatus comprises page information transmission means capable of transmitting page information related to image information of a plurality of pages to the image forming apparatus, and the second transmission unit transmits the request signal for requesting transmission of a page related to the page information to the image information generation apparatus in advance.~~

5. to 7. (Canceled)

8. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 1, wherein the image forming apparatus further comprises determination unit adapted to determine means for determining whether the first image information [[is]] to be printed on the first surface of the printing medium or the second image information to be printed on the second surface of the printing medium is to be received from the image information generation apparatus, and

the second said predetermined signal transmission unit means transmits the first predetermined signal representing a determination result of said determination unit means.

9. (Canceled)

10. (Currently amended) The system according to claim 8, wherein said determination unit determines whether the first image information or the second image information to be received ~~means identifies~~ on the basis of a convey state of the printing medium ~~whether the image is to be printed on the first surface or the second surface of the printing medium.~~

11. (Currently amended) An image information generation apparatus for generating image information to be transmitted to an image forming apparatus capable of forming images on both sides of a printing medium, comprising:

image generation unit adapted to generate ~~means for generating~~ image information;

storage unit adapted to store ~~means for storing~~ the generated image information to allow identifying whether the image information is first image information to be printed on a first surface of the printing medium or second image information to be printed on a second surface of the printing medium;

reception unit adapted to receive a first signal to select the first image information or the second image information in order to transmit to the image forming apparatus ~~means for receiving a predetermined signal from the image forming apparatus~~;

selection unit adapted to select ~~means for selecting~~ one of the first image information to be printed on the first surface of the medium and the second image

information ~~to be printed on the second surface~~ on the basis of the first predetermined signal received by said reception unit means; and

transmission unit adapted to transmit ~~means for reading out~~ the image information selected by said selection unit means ~~from said storage means and transmitting the information~~ to the image forming apparatus.

12. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein said image information generation unit generates ~~means comprises at least one of means for generating~~ the image information on the basis of PDL data sent from a host computer ~~and means for generating the image information by reading an original.~~

13. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 11, wherein the transmission unit transmits ~~further comprising~~ page information ~~transmission means capable of transmitting page information~~ related to image information of a plurality of pages to the image forming apparatus ~~in advance.~~

14. (Canceled)

15. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 13, wherein said apparatus sends the page image information as a pair to be printed on the first and the second surface of the medium, after said image information are made ready to transmit.

16. (Currently amended) An image forming apparatus capable of forming images on both sides of a printing medium on the basis of image information generated by an image information generation apparatus, comprising:

determination unit adapted to determine ~~means for identifying~~ whether ~~[[the]]~~ first image information ~~[[is]]~~ to be printed on a first surface of the printing medium or second image information to be printed on a second surface of the printing medium is to be received from the image information generation apparatus;

transmission unit adapted to transmit ~~means for transmitting~~ a predetermined signal representing a determination result of said determination unit ~~means~~;

reception unit adapted to receive the image information transmitted from the image information generation apparatus; and

image forming unit adapted to form ~~means for forming~~ an image on the first surface or the second surface of the printing medium on the basis of the image information received by the reception unit ~~transmitted from the image information generation apparatus.~~

17. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the transmission unit transmits a ~~further comprising transmission request signal~~ means for requesting transmission of the page image information to the image information generation apparatus ~~of the first surface or the second surface.~~

18. (Canceled)

19. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein the reception unit receives ~~said image forming means comprises~~ page information reception means capable of receiving page information related to image information of a plurality of pages from the image information generation apparatus ~~in advance~~, and the transmission unit transmits a request signal for requesting transmission of a page related to the page information to the image information generation apparatus ~~selects a paper feed position and discharge position in accordance with the page information.~~

20. (Currently amended) The apparatus according to claim 16, wherein said apparatus further comprises unit adapted to determine ~~determination means for determining~~ whether the first image information ~~[[is]]~~ to be printed on the first surface of the printing medium or the second image information to be printed on the second surface of the printing medium is to be received from the image information generation apparatus, and the said predetermined signal transmission unit means transmits the predetermined signal representing a determination result of said determination unit means.

21. (Currently amended) An image forming method having an image information generation module for generating image information, and an image forming module capable of forming images on both sides of a printing medium on the basis of the image information generated by the image information generation module,

the image information generation module comprising:

an image information generation step of generating image information;

a storage step of storing the generated image information to allow identifying whether the image information is first image information to be printed on a first surface of the printing medium or second image information to be printed on a second surface of the printing medium;

a first reception step of receiving a first signal to select the first image information or the second image information in order to transmit to predetermined signal from the image forming module;

a selection step of selecting one of the first image information to be printed on the first surface of the medium and the second image information to be printed on the second surface on the basis of the first predetermined signal received by said first reception step; and

a first transmission step of transmitting reading out the image information selected by said selection step ~~from said storage step and transmitting the information to~~ the image forming module, and

the image forming module comprising steps of:

a second transmission step of transmitting the first predetermined signal;

a second reception step of receiving the image information transmitted from the image information generation module; and

an image forming step of forming an image on the first surface or the second surface of the printing medium on the basis of the image information received by the second reception step ~~transmitted from the image information generation module~~.

22. (Original) The method according to claim 21, wherein said image information generation step generates the image information on the basis of PDL data sent from a host computer.

23. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein the second transmission step transmits a request signal ~~image forming module comprises a transmission request step of~~ requesting transmission of the image information to the image information generation module, and the second reception step of the image forming module receives the image information transmitted from the image information generation module in accordance with the transmission of the request signal ~~of the first surface or the second surface.~~

24. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein the first transmission step transmits ~~image information generation module comprises a page information transmission step capable of transmitting page information~~ related to image information of a plurality of pages to the image forming module, and the second transmission step transmits the request signal for requesting transmission of a page related to the page information to the image information generation module in advance.

25. to 27. (Canceled)

28. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 21, wherein the image forming module further comprises a determination step of determining whether the

first image information [[is]] to be printed on the first surface of the printing medium or the second image information to be printed on the second surface of the printing medium is to be received from the image information generation module, and the second ~~said~~ ~~predetermined signal~~ transmission step transmits the first ~~predetermined~~ signal representing a determination result of said determination step.

29. (Canceled)

30. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 28, wherein said determination step determines whether the first image information or the second image information is to be received ~~identifies~~ on the basis of a convey state of the printing medium ~~whether the image is to be printed on the first surface or the second surface of the printing medium~~.

31. (Currently amended) An image information generation method for generating image information to be transmitted to an image forming module capable of forming images on both sides of a printing medium, comprising:
an image generation step of generating image information;
a storage step of storing the generated image information to allow identifying whether the image information is first image information to be printed on a first surface of the printing medium or second image information to be printed on a second surface of the printing medium;

a reception step of receiving a first signal to select the first image information or the second image information in order to transmit to predetermined signal ~~from~~ the image forming module;

a selection step of selecting one of the first image information ~~to be printed on the first surface of the medium~~ and the second image information ~~to be printed on the second surface~~ on the basis of the first predetermined signal received by said reception step; and

a transmission step of transmitting ~~reading out~~ the image information selected by said selection step ~~from said storage step and transmitting the information to~~ the image forming module.

32. (Original) The method according to claim 31, wherein said image information generation step generates the image information on the basis of PDL data sent from a host computer.

33. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 31, wherein the transmission step transmits ~~further comprising~~ page information ~~transmission step capable of transmitting page information~~ related to image information of a plurality of page to the image forming module ~~in advance~~.

34. and 35. (Canceled)

36. (Currently amended) An image forming method capable of forming images on both sides of a printing medium on the basis of image information generated by an image information generation module, comprising:

a determination step of ~~determining~~ ~~identifying~~ whether ~~[[the]]~~ first image information ~~[[is]]~~ to be printed on a first surface of the printing medium or second image information to be printed on a second surface of the printing medium is to be received from the image information generation module;

a transmission step of transmitting a predetermined signal representing a determination result of said determination step;

a reception step of receiving the image information transmitted from the image information generation module; and

an image forming step of forming an image on the first surface or the second surface of the printing medium on the basis of the image information received by the reception step ~~transmitted from the image information generation module~~.

37. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein the transmission step transmits ~~further comprising a transmission request signal step of~~ requesting transmission of the page image information to ~~[[of]]~~ the image generation module ~~first surface or the second surface~~.

38. (Canceled)

39. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein the reception step receives ~~said image forming step comprises a page information reception step capable of receiving~~ page information related to image information of a plurality of pages from the image information generation module ~~in advance~~, and the transmission step transmits a request signal for requesting transmission of a page related to the page information to the image generation module ~~selects a paper feed position and discharge position in accordance with the page information.~~

40. (Currently amended) The method according to claim 36, wherein said method further comprises a determination step of determining whether the first image information ~~[[is]]~~ to be printed on the first surface of ~~[[or]]~~ the printing medium or the second image information to be printed on the second surface of the printing medium is to be received from the image information generation module, and the said predetermined ~~signal~~ transmission step transmits the predetermined signal representing a determination result of said determination step.